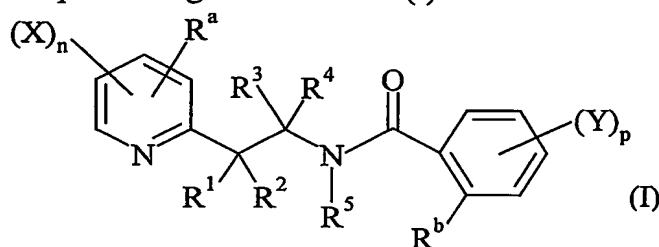


CLAIMS

- 5 1. A compound of general formula (I) :



in which :

- n is 1, 2, or 3;
- p is 1, 2, 3 or 4;
- R^a is a C₁-C₆-halogenoalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms;
- each substituent X is chosen, independently of the others, as being a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a C₁-C₆-alkyl or a C₁-C₆-halogenoalkyl;
- R¹ and R² are chosen independently of each other as being a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a cyano group, a hydroxy group, an amino group, a sulfanyl group, a formyl group, a formyloxy group, a formylamino group, a carboxy group, a carbamoyl group, a N-hydroxycarbamoyl group, a carbamate group, a (hydroxyimino)-C₁-C₆-alkyl group, a C₁-C₆-alkyl, a C₂-C₆-alkenyl, a C₂-C₆-alkynyl, a C₁-C₆-alkylamino, a di-C₁-C₆-alkylamino, a C₁-C₆-alkoxy, a C₁-C₆-halogenoalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₆-halogenoalkoxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₆-alkylsulfanyl, a C₁-C₆-halogenoalkylsulfanyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₂-C₆-alkenyloxy, a C₂-C₆-halogenoalkenyloxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₃-C₆-alkynyloxy, a C₃-C₆-halogenoalkynyloxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₃-C₆-cycloalkyl, a C₃-C₆-halogenocycloalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₆-alkylcarbonyl, a C₁-C₆-halogenoalkylcarbonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₆-alkylcarbamoyl, a di-C₁-C₆-alkylcarbamoyl, a N-C₁-C₆-alkyloxycarbamoyl, a C₁-C₆-alkoxycarbamoyl, a N-C₁-C₆-alkyl-C₁-C₆-alkoxycarbamoyl, a C₁-C₆-alkoxycarbonyl, a C₁-C₆-halogenoalkoxycarbonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₆-alkylcarbonyloxy, a C₁-C₆-halogenoalkylcarbonyloxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₆-alkylcarbonylamino, a C₁-C₆-halogenoalkylcarbonylamino having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₆-alkylaminocarbonyloxy, a di-C₁-C₆-alkylaminocarbonyloxy, a C₁-C₆-alkyloxycarbonyloxy, a C₁-C₆-alkylsulphenyl, a C₁-C₆-

halogenoalkylsulphenyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₆-alkylsulphinyl, a C₁-C₆-halogenoalkylsulphinyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₆-alkylsulphonyl, a C₁-C₆-halogenoalkylsulphonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a benzyl, a benzyloxy, a benzylsulfanyl, a benzylsulfinyl, a benzylsulfonyl, a benzylamino, a phenoxy, a phenylsulfanyl, a phenylsulfinyl, a phenylsulfonyl, a phenylamino, a phenylcarbonylamino, a 2,6 dichlorophenyl-carbonylamino group or a phenyl group; or R¹ and R² may form together a cyclopropyl, a cyclobutyl, a cyclopentyl or a cyclohexyl;

- R³ and R⁴ are chosen independently of each other as being a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a cyano group, a hydroxy group, an amino group, a sulfanyl group, a formyl group, a carboxy group, a carbamoyl group, a N-hydroxycarbamoyl group, a carbamate group, a (hydroxyimino)-C₁-C₆-alkyl group, a C₁-C₆-alkyl, a C₂-C₆-alkenyl, a C₂-C₆-alkynyl, a C₁-C₆-alkylamino, a di-C₁-C₆-alkylamino, a C₁-C₆-alkoxy, a C₁-C₆-halogenoalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₆-halogenoalkoxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₆-alkylsulfanyl, a C₁-C₆-halogenoalkylsulfanyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₂-C₆-alkenyloxy, a C₂-C₆-halogenoalkenyloxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₃-C₆-alkynyloxy, a C₃-C₆-halogenoalkynyloxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₃-C₆-cycloalkyl, a C₃-C₆-halogenocycloalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₆-alkylcarbonyl, a C₁-C₆-halogenoalkylcarbonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a N-C₁-C₆-alkyloxycarbamoyl, a C₁-C₆-alkoxycarbamoyl, a N-C₁-C₆-alkyl-C₁-C₆-alkoxycarbamoyl, a C₁-C₆-halogenoalkoxycarbonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₆-alkylcarbonyloxy, a C₁-C₆-halogenoalkylcarbonyloxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₆-alkylcarbonylamino, a C₁-C₆-halogenoalkylcarbonylamino having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₆-alkylaminocarbonyloxy, a di-C₁-C₆-alkylaminocarbonyloxy, a C₁-C₆-alkyloxycarbonyloxy, a C₁-C₆-alkylsulphenyl, a C₁-C₆-halogenoalkylsulphenyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₆-alkylsulphinyl, a C₁-C₆-halogenoalkylsulphinyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₆-alkylsulphonyl, a C₁-C₆-halogenoalkylsulphonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a benzyl, a benzyloxy, a benzylsulfanyl, a benzylsulfinyl, a benzylsulfonyl, a benzylamino, a phenoxy, a phenylsulfanyl, a phenylsulfinyl, a phenylsulfonyl, a phenylamino, a phenylcarbonylamino, a 2,6 dichlorophenyl-carbonylamino group or a phenyl group;

with the proviso that when three of the four substituents R¹, R², R³ and R⁴ are a hydrogen atom, then the fourth substituent is not a hydrogen atom;

- R⁵ is chosen as being a hydrogen atom, a cyano group, a formyl group, a hydroxy group, a C₁-C₆-alkyl, a C₁-C₆-halogenoalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a

C₁-C₆-alkoxy, a C₁-C₆-halogenoalkoxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₃-C₆-halogenocycloalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₂-C₆-alkenyl, a C₂-C₆-alkynyl, a C₁-C₆-alkoxy-C₁-C₆-alkyl, a C₁-C₆-cyanoalkyl, a C₁-C₆-aminoalkyl, a C₁-C₆-alkylamino-C₁-C₆-alkyl, a di-C₁-C₆-alkylamino-C₁-C₆-alkyl, a C₁-C₆-alkylcarbonyl, a C₁-C₆-halogenalkylcarbonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₆-alkyloxycarbonyl, a C₃-C₇-cycloalkyl, a C₃-C₇-halogenocycloalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₃-C₇-cycloalkyl-C₁-C₆-alkyl, a C₁-C₆-benzyloxycarbonyl, a C₁-C₆-alkoxy-C₁-C₆-alkylcarbonyl, a C₁-C₆-alkylsulfonyl or a C₁-C₆-halogenoalkylsulfonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms;

- Y is the same or different and is a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a nitro group, a cyano group, a hydroxy group, an amino group, a sulfanyl group, a pentafluoro-λ⁶-sulfanyl group, a formyl group, a formyloxy group, a formylamino group, a carboxy group, a C₁-C₈-alkyl, a C₁-C₈-halogenoalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₂-C₈-alkenyl, a C₂-C₈-alkynyl, a C₁-C₈-alkylamino, a di-C₁-C₈-alkylamino, a C₁-C₈-alkoxy, a C₁-C₈-halogenoalkoxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₈-alkoxy-C₂-C₈-alkenyl, a C₁-C₈-alkylsulfanyl, a C₁-C₈-halogenoalkylsulfanyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₈-alkoxycarbonyl, a C₁-C₈-halogenoalkoxycarbonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₈-alkylcarbonyloxy, a C₁-C₈-halogenoalkylcarbonyloxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₈-alkylsulphenyl, a C₁-C₈-halogenoalkylsulphenyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₈-alkylsulphinyl, a C₁-C₈-halogenoalkylsulphinyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₈-alkylsulphonyl, a C₁-C₈-halogenoalkylsulphonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms or a C₁-C₈-alkylsulfonamide; and

- R^b is a halogen atom, a nitro group, a cyano group, an amino group, a sulfanyl group, a pentafluoro-λ⁶-sulfanyl group, a formyl group, a formyloxy group, a formylamino group, a carboxy group, a C₁-C₆-alkyl, a C₁-C₆-halogenoalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₂-C₆-alkenyl, a C₂-C₆-alkynyl, a C₁-C₆-alkylamino, a di-C₁-C₆-alkylamino, a C₁-C₆-alkoxy, a C₁-C₆-halogenoalkoxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₆-alkoxy-C₂-C₆-alkenyl, a C₁-C₆-alkylsulfanyl, a C₁-C₆-halogenoalkylsulfanyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₆-alkoxycarbonyl, a C₁-C₆-halogenoalkoxycarbonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₆-alkylcarbonyloxy, a C₁-C₆-halogenoalkylcarbonyloxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₆-alkylsulphenyl, a C₁-C₆-halogenoalkylsulphenyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₆-alkylsulphinyl, a C₁-C₆-halogenoalkylsulphinyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₆-alkylsulphonyl, a C₁-C₆-halogenoalkylsulphonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms or a C₁-C₆-alkylsulfonamide;

as well as its salts, N-oxydes, metallic complexes, metalloidal complexes and optically active isomers.

2. A compound according to claim 1, characterised in that n is 1 or 2.
3. A compound according to claim 1 or 2, characterised in that X is a halogen atom.
4. A compound according to claim 3, characterised in that X is chlorine.
5. A compound according to any of the claims 1 to 4, characterised in that R^a is -CF₃.
6. A compound according to any of the claims 1 to 5, characterised in that the 2-pyridyl is substituted in 3- and/or in 5-position.
7. A compound according to claim 6, characterised in that the 2-pyridyl is substituted in 3-position by X and in 5-position by R^a.
8. A compound according to any of the claims 1 to 7, characterised in that the 2-pyridyl is substituted in 3-position by -Cl and in 5-position by -CF₃.
9. A compound according to any of the claims 1 to 8, characterised in that R^b is a halogen atom, a C₁-C₆-alkyl, a C₁-C₆-alkoxy or a C₁-C₆-halogenoalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms.
10. A compound according to any of the claims 1 to 9, characterised in that p is 1.
11. A compound according to any of the claims 1 to 10, characterised in that Y is a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom or a C₁-C₆-alkyl.
12. A compound according to any of the claims 1 to 11, characterised in that R¹ and R² are chosen, independently of each other, as being a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a cyano group, a hydroxy group, a C₁-C₆-alkyl, a C₁-C₆-halogenoalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₂-C₆-alkenyl, a C₁-C₆-alkoxy, a C₁-C₆-alkylsulfanyl, a C₁-

C₆-alkylsulfenyl, a C₁-C₆-alkylsulfinyl, a C₁-C₆-alkoxycarbonyl, a C₁-C₆-alkylcarbonylamino, a C₁-C₆-alkoxycarbonyloxy, a C₁-C₆-alkoxycarbonylamino or a phenyl group.

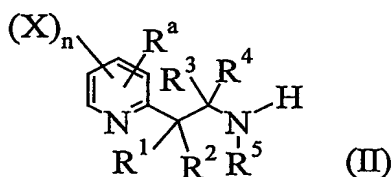
13. A compound according to claim 12, characterised in that R¹ and R² are chosen, independently of each other, as being a halogen atom, a C₁-C₆-alkyl, a C₁-C₆-halogenoalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₆-alkylcarbonylamino.

14. A compound according to any of the claims 1 to 13, characterised in that R³ and R⁴ are chosen, independently of each other, as being a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a cyano group, a C₁-C₆-alkyl, a C₁-C₆-halogenoalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₆-alkylcarbonylamino or a phenyl group.

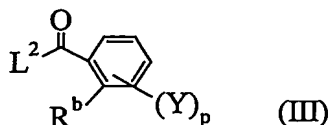
15. A compound according to claim 14, characterised in that R³ and R⁴ are chosen, independently of each other, as being a halogen atom, a C₁-C₆-alkyl, a C₁-C₆-halogenoalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms or a phenyl group.

16. A compound according to any of the claims 1 to 13, characterised in that R⁵ is a hydrogen atom or a C₃-C₇-cycloalkyl.

17. A process for the preparation of a compound of general formula (I) as defined in any of the claims 1 to 16, which comprises reacting a 2-pyridine derivative of general formula (II) or one of its salt :



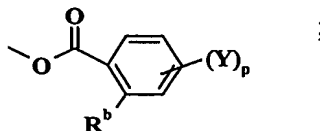
in which X, n, R^a, R¹, R², R³, R⁴ and R⁵ are as in any of the preceding claims;
with a carboxylic acid derivative of the general formula (III)



in which :

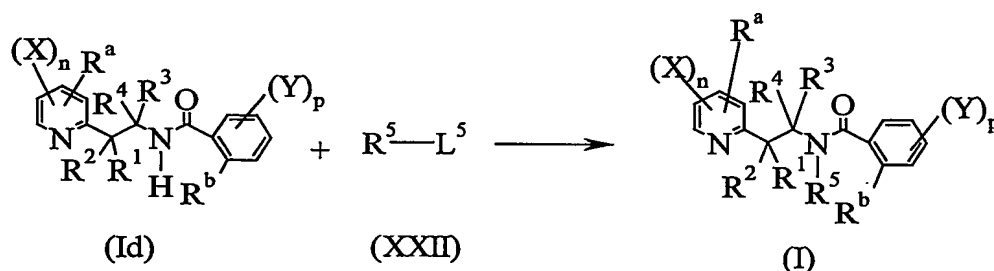
- Y, p and R^b are as defined in any of the preceding claims ; and

- L^2 is a leaving group chosen as being a halogen atom, a hydroxyl group, $-OR^6$, $-OCOR^6$, R^6 being a C_1 - C_6 alkyl, a C_1 - C_6 haloalkyl, a benzyl, 4-methoxybenzyl, pentafluorophenyl or a group of formula



in the presence of a catalyst and, if L^2 is a hydroxyl group, in the presence of a condensing agent.

18. A process according to claim 17, characterised in that R^5 is a hydrogen atom and that the process is completed by a further step according to the following reaction scheme :



in which : - $R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4, R^a, R^b, X, Y, n$ and p are as defined in any of the claims 1 to 15;

- L^5 is a leaving group chosen as being a halogen atom, a 4-methyl phenylsulfonyloxy or a methylsulfonyloxy;
comprising the reaction of a compound of general formula (Id) with a compound of general formula (XXII) to provide a compound of general formula (I).

19. A fungicidal composition comprising an effective amount of a compound according to any of the claims 1 to 16 and an agriculturally acceptable support.

20. A method for preventively or curatively combating the phytopathogenic fungi of crops, characterised in that an effective and non-phytotoxic amount of a composition according to claim 19 is applied to the plant seeds or to the plant leaves and/or to the fruits of the plants or to the soil in which the plants are growing or in which it is desired to grow them.